

Issue NE-CW2403, released June 15, 2003, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending June 15, 2003, localized storm damage from hail, high winds, and heavy rains injured some crops, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Cooler temperatures once again slowed growth of crops and pastures. Monitoring of grasshopper populations continued with high numbers being reported in more and more areas of the state.

This release is based on reports and data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Current county specific comments plus current and historic PDF files of Weather and Crop reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normals in the east to just above normals in the west. Precipitation fell statewide with largest amounts, over four inches, in the southeast.

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 2 percent poor, 19 fair, 61 good, and 18 excellent, above last year and average.

Soybean condition rated 2 percent poor, 21 fair, 64 good, and 13 excellent, above last year and average. Eighty-six percent of the fields had emerged, behind 95 last year and 92 average.

Sorghum condition rated 4 percent poor, 32 fair, 60 good, and 4 excellent. Planting was 91 percent complete, about five days behind the 96 percent last year and 95 average. Sixty-six percent of the fields had emerged, behind 85 last year and 83 average.

Wheat condition rated 2 percent very poor, 8 poor, 26 fair, 48 good, and 16 excellent, well above last year and the 5 year average. Wheat fields were 97 percent headed statewide, ahead of both last year at 93 and average at 95. Fields had turned color on 26 percent of the acreage, behind 34 last year and 37 average. With none of the fields ripe, harvest is not expected to begin before the end of June.

Proso millet was 37 percent seeded, a week behind last year’s planting progress at 53 percent complete.

Oat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 1 poor, 14 fair, 61 good, and 23 excellent, well above last year and average. The crop was 69 percent headed to date, ahead of 65 percent last year and 54 average.

Dry bean planting progressed to 73 percent complete, behind last year at 85 and average at 84. Forty-three percent of the fields had emerged, ahead of last year at 40 but behind average at 47.

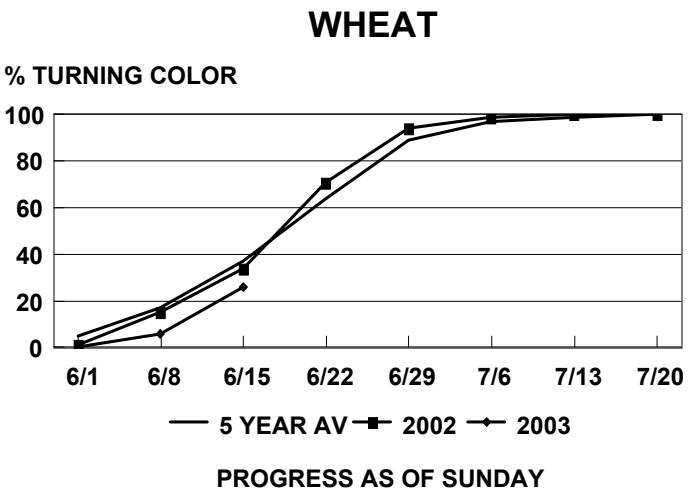
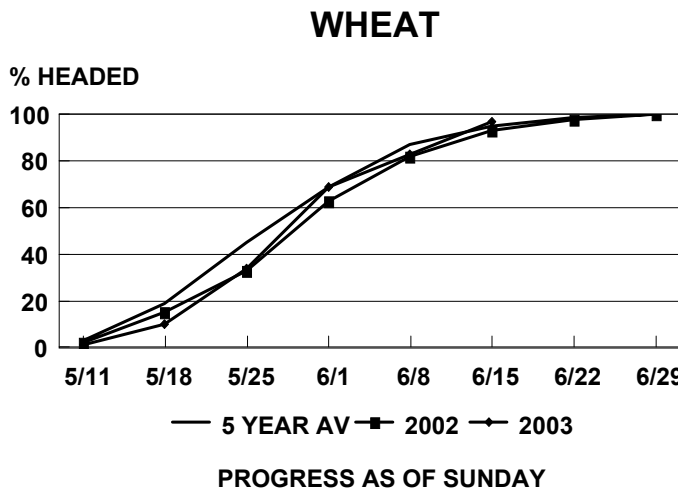
Alfalfa conditions rated 4 percent poor, 21 fair, 52 good, and 23 excellent, above last year and average. First cutting activities reached 82 percent complete, slightly ahead of the 81 last year and 79 average. Weevil populations have limited regrowth in a number of counties. Wild hay condition rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 26 fair, 55 good, and 11 excellent.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 5 percent very poor, 11 poor, 37 fair, 40 good, and 7 excellent. Pastures are providing better grazing potential but still remain below average. Ponds are filling in Southwest Nebraska with the recent rainfall.

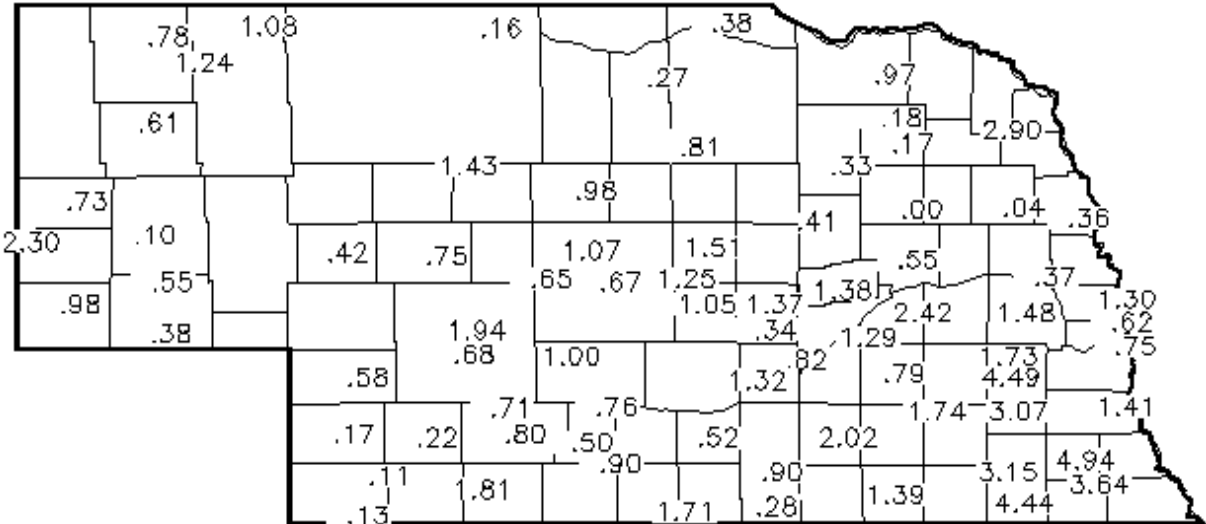
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of June 15, 2003

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Planted	1	98	98	100	99	92	99	96	98	94	100	99
% Soybeans Emerged	1	93	82	92	88	68	85	85	86	68	95	92
% Sorghum Planted	0	97	93	100	93	92	96	89	91	75	96	95
% Sorghum Emerged	0	75	60	50	75	48	72	70	66	41	85	83
% Wheat Headed	95	95	93	99	97	100	100	100	97	83	93	95
% Wheat Turning Color	2	26	35	21	13	45	60	52	26	6	34	37
% Oats Headed	44	70	61	71	68	91	94	87	69	36	65	54
% Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	66	86	78	81	82	95	94	96	82	60	81	79
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	4.7	6.0	4.7	5.7	3.4	5.1	4.1	2.8	4.5	3.7	6.0	4.8
Topsoil Moisture												
- % Very short	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	1	1	27	16
- % Short	13	44	15	9	2	22	3	4	20	9	40	20
- % Adequate	77	54	82	87	83	68	79	88	73	88	33	53
- % Surplus	10	1	3	4	15	3	18	8	6	2	0	11
Subsoil Moisture												
- % Very Short	13	6	0	5	5	34	1	6	10	4	29	17
- % Short	48	33	29	57	25	47	29	29	38	38	39	20
- % Adequate	39	61	71	37	67	19	70	63	52	58	32	58
- % Surplus	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	5

¹ Data unavailable.



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending June 15, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - June 15, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.87	.64	.73	1.00	1.46	.84	.76	2.47
Total since April 1	6.60	7.52	9.36	11.12	10.50	9.14	9.62	11.57
Normal since April 1	6.25	7.22	8.54	8.06	8.98	7.00	7.82	9.00
Total as % of normal	105%	105%	109%	138%	117%	130%	123%	128%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, June 15, 2003

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	86	48	66	0	114	549	625
	Scottsbluff	90	49	68	+3	126	671	625
	Sidney	88	46	67	+1	119	567	640
NC	Ainsworth	87	48	69	0	131	596	688
	Arthur	86	48	66	-2	111	546	673
	O'Neill	86	46	68	-1	128	568	728
NE	Concord	88	48	69	-1	132	591	750
	Elgin	86	49	69	-2	131	583	751
	West Point	91	47	70	-2	139	626	802
C	Grand Island	87	55	69	-1	136	658	766
	Lexington	87	52	70	0	137	678	751
	Ord	85	48	68	-2	127	618	757
EC	Lincoln	89	53	69	-4	130	704	850
	Central City	87	52	70	-1	136	671	779
	Mead	89	50	69	-4	129	675	836
SW	Champion	94	46	69	+1	125	646	697
	North Platte	92	47	68	-1	122	653	704
	Curtis	93	51	70	+1	134	702	719
SC	Arapahoe	89	45	66	-2	112	570	669
	Minden	86	54	70	0	141	686	754
	Red Cloud	87	51	70	-1	139	693	777
SE	Beatrice	90	52	69	-4	131	716	850
	Clay Center	87	53	69	-1	136	656	774
	Nemaha	90	57	71	-1	147	781	888

Source: High Plains Climate Center.